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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re the Application of: Akihiko OTOGURO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2822

Serial No.: 10/603,077

Examiner: Christy L. Novacek

Filed: June 25, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1877

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND

METHOD OF FORMING PATTERN

Attorney Docket Number: 030757

Customer Number: 38834

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUESTED

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 28, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2004, Applicants amend the claims as follows and submit the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.